

Reply-To: <lipman@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>
From: "David Lipman" <lipman@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov>
To: <Harold_Varmus@nih.gov>
Subject: RE: follow up
Date: Fri, 5 Mar 1999 12:10:32 -0500
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You think as you ride, I think as I run...

OK.

There are two main components of the system -
the processing of new submissions
tools for processing wordprocessor files into a standard structured and
linked format
some tracking system for journals using this system
tracking for "direct submissions"

the information retrieval system for articles

There would need to be both an overall manager/editor, staff to coordinate with participating journals, programming staff and help desk staff. I've enclosed an excel spreadsheet with some estimates but I think to do a real good job, and you can't afford to do less, I think you're really spending between \$2 million and \$3 million. Some of these costs are startup costs, and the system should scale very well (i.e., costs would only increase modestly with large increases in submissions and usage). If DOE, NSF, and Hughes bought in, the NIH contribution could be significantly reduced (of course, Hughes has somewhat of a surplus now and could conceivably pay for the whole thing).

Ignoring our space problems (and certainly much of this could be done off-campus), NCBI could certainly do this thing. We have a senior-level programmer/developer coming this May who's done very related things (he built the BioMedNet, ChemWeb, and CardioSource sites) and he knows the publishing industry and technologies.
The tricky part will not be the information retrieval system but the processing/tracking system for submitted articles.

Let me know if you have any questions.
David

> -----Original Message-----

> From: Harold_Varmus@nih.gov [mailto:Harold_Varmus@nih.gov]
> Sent: Friday, March 05, 1999 10:30 AM
> To: lipman@ncbi.nlm.nih.gov
> Subject: RE: follow up
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>
> Funny you should ask. I was just thinking on my bike this AM that you
> should give me a price estimate because I am in the midst of deciding how
> to spend my remaining DDF \$\$\$\$. Of course the estimate may be
> influenced by
> the precise methodology we agree to, but I'll bet you can give me
> a ballpark
> figure.
>

 Openrev.xls